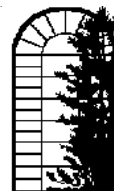


The Museum Insider

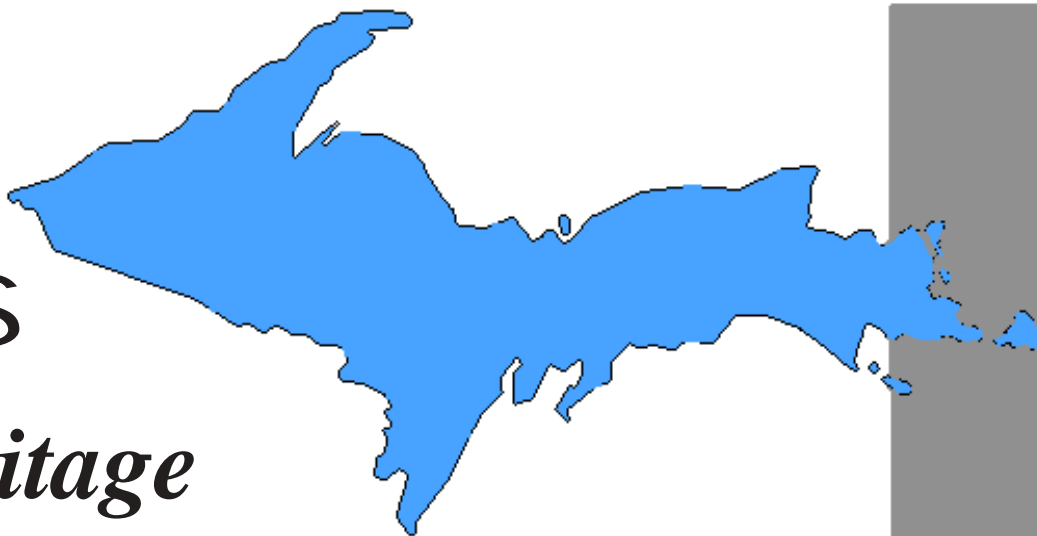
Volume 3, Issue 4

Newsletter of the Friends of Michigan History



Winter 2003

Honor the U.P.'s *iron heritage*



Iron ore from the Upper Peninsula went into Henry Ford's Model T—the car that “put America on wheels.” And during World War II, iron ore from the U.P. helped Michigan become the Arsenal of Democracy.

This is the legacy of countless Upper Peninsula miners and their families.

If your family tree includes people who worked or lived in the U.P.'s iron communities, you can honor their role in forging a modern America by commissioning a heritage plaque that bears their names. The plaques will be part of a new exhibit gallery at the Michigan Iron Industry Museum in Negaunee. The museum is part of the Michigan Historical Museum System.

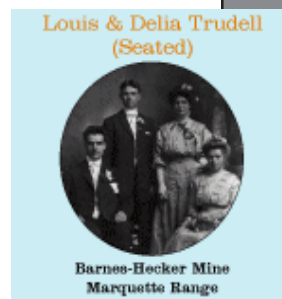
Photographs may also be submitted for use on the heritage plaques. The Michigan Iron Industry Museum will copy and then return photographs or—

with the donor's permission—preserve the photo and add it to the museum's collections. The museum will create and maintain a database of iron miners and other community members for use by visitors.

For more information, telephone Thomas G. Friggen at the Michigan Iron Industry Museum at (906) 475-7857 or send e-mail to friggenst@michigan.gov.

Handcrafted heritage plaques are available in the following formats:

Size: 10" x 10" plaque
Format: photograph and name
Donation: \$1,000



Size: 5" x 5" plaque
Format: photograph and name
Donation: \$250

Size: 5" x 2.5" plaque
Format: Name
Donation: \$100



WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

The Michigan Historical Museum is looking for your help in reaching people who once called the Upper Peninsula home. If you belong to or know of U.P. clubs in the Lower Peninsula or outside Michigan, please contact Chris Dancisak of the Michigan Historical Museum at (517) 373-1668 or dancisakc@michigan.gov.

Workshops pair handicraft, heritage

Just because winter is coming doesn't mean you have to stay at home. The Michigan Historical Museum's heritage workshops resume in the new year with a great lineup that you won't mind braving winter weather to attend.

The workshops are designed for adults to explore the handicraft traditions used by Michiganders of centuries gone by. Expert instructors will take you step by step through the process of each topic. Please note that there are fees for these workshops; preregistration is required. Telephone (517) 373-1905 or send e-mail to arasimj@michigan.gov for more information.

Snow Stepping

Jan. 10, 2004

Create your own drift-buster snowshoes with neoprene lacings using traditional designs. This is a full-day workshop, so bring a sack lunch.

Piece On Earth

Jan. 11

Learn the basic techniques in hand piecing and sewing a pieced quilt square. You'll also view pieced quilts from the museum's collection.

Building a Log Cabin

Feb. 1

Discover the basics of foundation piecing techniques in quilt construction as you create a hand-sewn log cabin quilt square. You'll also view log cabin quilts from the museum's collection.

Look What I Found in My Attic... Feb. 21

While spring-cleaning, you've come upon grandma's wedding dress, old family photos and the like. Learn the correct techniques to preserve your cherished keepsakes.

Say "Yo" to Yo-Yos

Feb. 22

The yo-yo quilt was popular in the U.S. from the 1920s through the 1940s. Made of tiny circular pieces of fabric gathered at the edges, yo-yos can be carried with you and worked on whenever you have a free moment.

Tell It Like It Is

Feb. 22

One way civilizations pass on information from generation to generation is through storytelling. Learn how to use storytelling to remember historical information and guide you in becoming skilled in the art of storytelling.

Lighting the Way with Bees & Me Mar. 6

Get filled in on how bees fill their hives with their remarkable beeswax. Then,



Heritage workshops instruct adults on a variety of handicraft traditions, like those used to make these quilt squares in the museum's collection.

learn how to use the product of the bees' labors to create your own set of beeswax candles to take home and enjoy.

Look What I Found in My Attic... Mar. 20

See Feb. 21 session for information.

New exhibit a glass act

Beginning in mid-January 2004, a product line once called Michigan's unofficial antique makes a limited-time appearance in the Michigan Historical Museum's second-floor atrium exhibit area.

The still-prized collectible is Michigan glass—a pressed glass pattern introduced by the U.S. Glass Company in 1902.



This gilded sugar bowl from the museum's collection will be part of the Michigan glass exhibit.

The Michigan pattern, also called "Loop and Pillar" or "Paneled Jewel," features large loops bordered with tiny "beads," with pillars between the loops.

Most Michigan glass was clear, although some pieces were produced in pink or rose glass. Stop by the atrium exhibit to see dozens of examples of Michigan glass, from a gilded sugar bowl to a rare oval ice cream dish.

The museum thanks John Curry of Lansing for the loan of his Michigan glass collection through mid-June 2004.

Dig deeper into Controversy

Digging Up Controversy, the newest exhibit at the Michigan Historical Museum in Lansing, is now open in the first-floor special exhibit gallery.

The exhibit spotlights rarely seen artifacts known as the Michigan Relics and the debate that has swirled around them for more than a century. The Michigan Relics are marked by mysterious writing and pictures that lead some people to believe they are evidence of an ancient civilization in Michigan. Other observers, though, believe the relics are nothing more than products of an archaeological scam.

In conjunction with *Digging Up Controversy*, the Michigan Historical Museum is offering a series of lively discussions surrounding archaeological issues. Programs are free of charge.

☞ **February 21, 2004** - Michigan Historical Center historical archaeologist Dean Anderson examines the Kensington Runestone and discusses known authentic archaeological evidence for Viking exploration of North America. 1:30 P.M.

☞ **March 20, 2004** - Larry Plamondon of the Grand River Band Ottawa discusses a Native American perspective on the Michigan Relics. 1:30 P.M.

☞ **March 27, 2004** - An often featured guest on the PBS program, *Antiques Roadshow*, C. Wesley Cowan discusses the adverse effect of fakes in the antiques trade. 1:30 P.M.

For more information, visit www.michiganhistory.org.

From the Friends President

Just a note to thank you, Friends members, for your support this past year. Recently, the Friends have been able to make a \$2,000 commitment to museum education programs.

During this time of uncertain funding, the Michigan Historical Museum needs the help of the Friends of Michigan History more than ever. It is during times such as these that the Friends need you more than ever.

If you are not currently a Friend, join us now to receive tax benefits when you itemize on your next IRS tax return. If you are already a Friends member—thank you again. Perhaps you will consider an early renewal of your membership or giving a gift membership to a friend or business associate.

Wishing you all the best in the new year!

—Francis R. "Bus" Spaniola

Welcome to Our New Friends

Andrew Beachnau
Mrs. William Clark
William Davis
Jean Hekhuis
Evelyn King

John and Kelly Lincoln
Kirk and Lucia Marshall
William and Shirley Paxton
Andy Snyder

Thank You to Our Renewing Friends

Gerald and Jean Aben
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John and Dinah Katt

Jeffrey Lapinski and Beverly Bonning
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Jerome and Ann Rock
Norman and Dulcie Rosenfeld
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Jennifer Such
Barbara Taylor
Fred and Hazel Trebilcock
Tom and Diane Ungrodt
Geoff and Terri Weller
Jeff White
Kenneth and Doris White
Mary Jane Wilson

Join Us!

Become a partner with the Michigan Historical Center in protecting, preserving and interpreting Michigan's rich heritage.

Your membership benefits include:

- A one-year subscription to *Michigan History* magazine
- A 10% discount at the Michigan Historical Museum Stores
- Discounts on museum classes and workshops
- Nationwide museum discounts through "Time Travelers"
- *The Museum Insider* quarterly newsletter
- Special invitations to exhibit openings
- Membership card
- Tax benefits when you itemize your IRS tax return

For more information,
call (517) 373-2565.
or visit www.michiganhistory.org

Yes! Please reserve the Friends of Michigan History membership indicated below

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City/State/Zip _____
Telephone (____) _____
E-mail: _____

☐ Gift membership

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E-mail: _____

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☐ \$40 Basic ☐ \$60 Contributing ☐ \$100 Sponsoring ☐ Other \$ _____

Payment method (check one):

☐ Check enclosed, payable to Friends of Michigan History
☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

Cardholder's name (please print) _____

Card number _____

Exp date _____ 3-digit CID # (back of card) _____

Cardholder's signature _____

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P.O. Box 70038
Lansing, MI 48907

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*The Museum Insider is produced by
Jennifer Sochor and Diana Paiz Engle
of the Michigan Historical Museum.*

**Next
Meeting:
Jan 12, 2004**

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Statehood Day: Historic meal, music & more

Make your reservations now for the second annual Statehood Day Brunch and Silent Auction at the Michigan Historical Museum in Lansing. This charming event, in celebration of Michigan's 167th birthday, is scheduled for 10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. on January 25, 2004.

The museum is closed to the public on Sunday mornings—only those with reservations will be admitted for this exclusive event. The Statehood Day Brunch and Silent Auction is a fund-raising event in support of the Michigan Historical Museum's award-winning education programs.

The brunch offers a "gifts of the land" buffet featuring a tasty and intriguing variety of foods from the 1830s, when Michigan became the nation's 26th state. Plates will be piled high with a pioneer feast, including game, berries, grains, whole wheat pancakes, maple syrup and more. Following the brunch, guests have the opportunity to bid on items donated by local businesses. Everyone will take home a free gift.

Guests at the brunch and auction will be treated to a special performance by singer-songwriter Neil Woodward. Named "Michigan's troubadour," Woodward—also a folk historian and musician—will perform music of the 1830s.

Reservations for the Statehood Day Brunch and Silent Auction are \$40 per person. Contact Jo Anne Arasim at (517) 373-1905 or arasimj@michigan.gov before January 12. This event is open only to the first 100 guests with prepaid reservations.



Recording artist Neil Woodward performs at Statehood Day event.

On my honor...

If you know a Junior Girl Scout, let her know about the following badge-earning workshops hosted by the Michigan Historical Museum education staff. Fee is \$20 per workshop; preregistration is required. Contact Tami Averill at (517) 241-4060 or averillt@michigan.gov.

Stitch In Time **Jan. 17**

Juniors earn their Yarn and Fabric Arts badge as they learn about our handicraft traditions. The girls will create a simple loom for weaving, tighten up their knot-tying skills and learn the basics of embroidery.

Boogie for Your Badge **Feb. 28**

Juniors dance the day away as they earn their Dance badge. The girls will learn the basics of tap, swing, ballroom, square and other dance forms. At the end of the day, Juniors strut their stuff at the Badge Boogie Ball.

Holiday Closings

The Michigan Historical Museum will be closed
December 24 - 26 and December 31 - January 2, 2004.